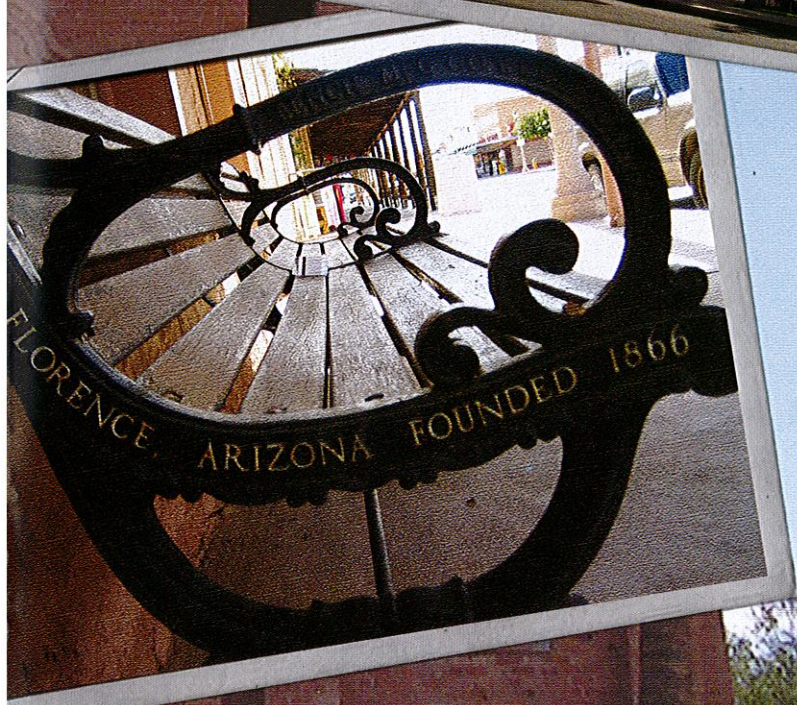
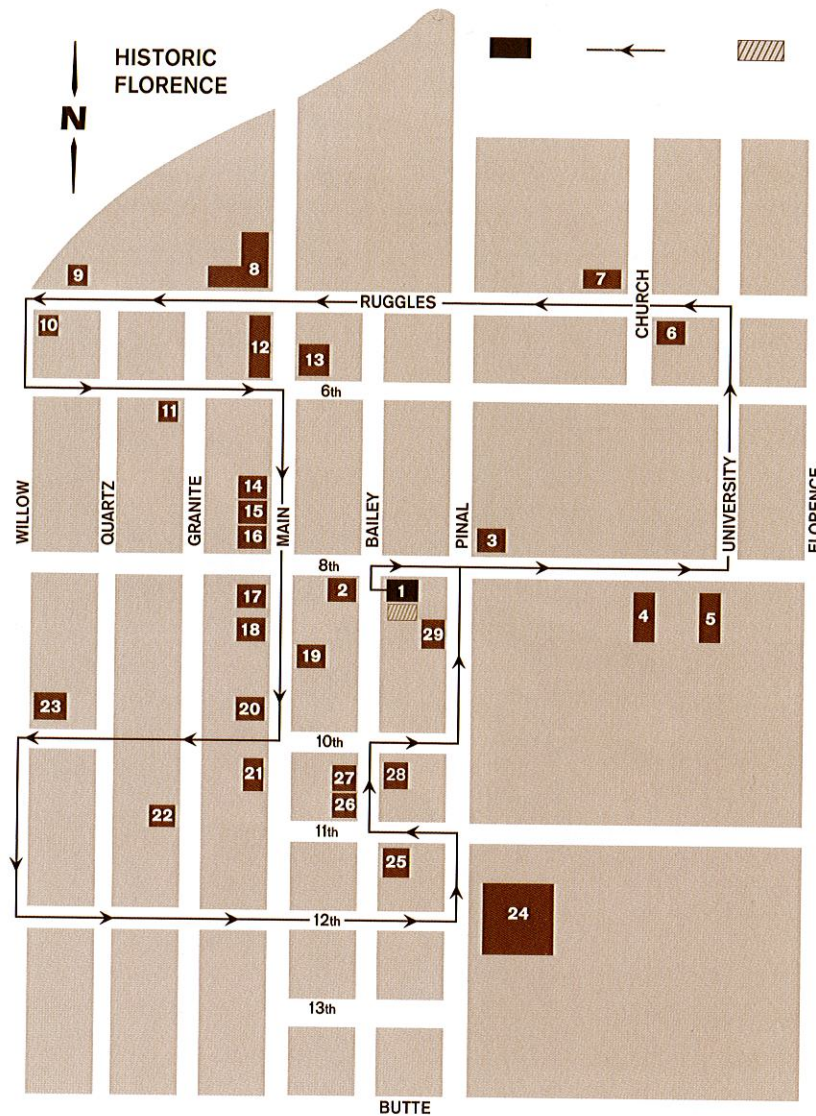


Hear Your History



**An Interpretive Audio
Tour of Historic Florence**



The following were interviewed for Hear Your History: An Interpretive Audio Tour of Historic Florence:

Bertha Lizarraga
Alfred Westfall

Chris Reid
Bita Arriola

Dottie Borree
Amelia Ramirez

Hear Your History: An Interpretive Audio Tour of Historic Florence is the exciting result of a partnership between the Florence Community Library, the Town of Florence, the Florence Main Street Program, and the Pinal County Historical Society Museum. The sixty-minute tour explores twenty-nine of Florence's historical, architectural and cultural sites.



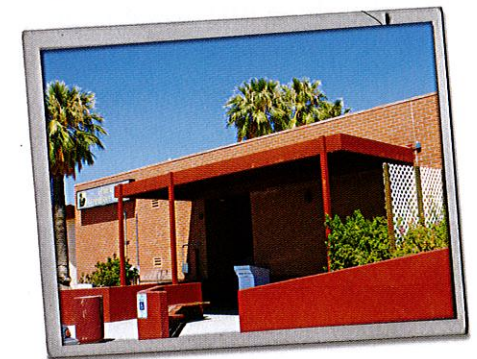
The Town of Florence is a full-service municipality. The Town provides police, fire, library, senior center, parks, water, sewer, sanitation and many other services to the community. Town of Florence employees are pleased to provide quality services and a friendly attitude to all of our residents. Learn more about Florence at www.florenceaz.gov or (520) 868-7500.

The Florence Community Library

offers a wealth of information to visitors. From the daily newspaper and Internet access to the newest books, the library is the central location for information and educational services in Florence.

Explore

- Personal and educational growth
- Career opportunities and business and economic development
- Cultural trends and recreational experiences
- Local community resources



Visit the Florence Community Library at:

1000 South Willow Street, Florence, AZ 85132

Phone: (520) 868-9471 Fax: (520) 868-4651

E-mail: library@florenceaz.gov

The Florence Main Street Program

uses the Main Street Four Point Approach™ developed by the National Trust for Historic Preservation to advance downtown Florence's social and economic vitality. The Florence Main Street Program is committed to the continued economic development of the Main Street area by encouraging cooperation and leadership in the community, improving its appearance and enhancing our historic and cultural character. The program operates the Florence Visitor Center where information is available about relocation and area attractions. Located at 291 N. Bailey Street in downtown Florence. Call toll free (866) 977-4496 or visit www.florencemainstreet.com and www.visitflorenceaz.com.



The Pinal County Historical Society Museum

helps you understand Florence's remarkable history. Everything from cactus furniture, bullets, barbed wire, hangman's nooses to the window from the notorious shoot-out between the sheriff and the deputy.

Located at:

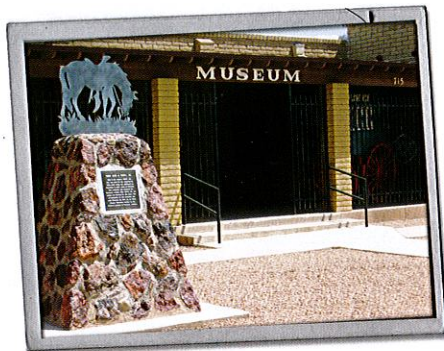
715 S. Main Street
Florence, AZ 85132

Hours: Tues- Sat 11-4, Sun 12-4

Open from Sept 1 to July 15.

Admission by donation.

For more information call (520) 868-4382.

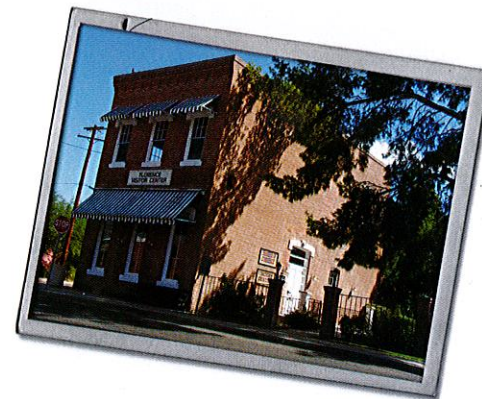


Hear Your History Audio Stops

Stop 1 – Brunenkant City Bakery Building 291 N. Bailey Street

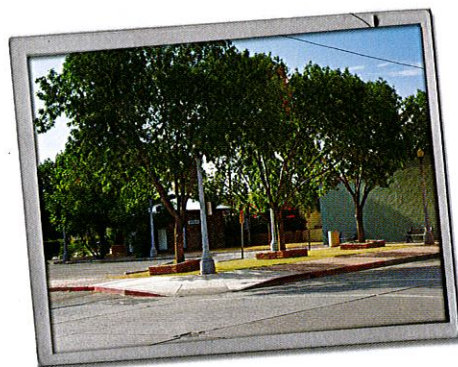
The Brunenkant City Bakery Building is an excellent example of the American Victorian style of architecture. The "City Bakery" was opened by German-born Conrad Brunenkant in April 1890. He came to Florence in 1889 from Pinal City when the Silver King Mine closed. His son, Alvin, continued the business until the 1930s. Alvin was also

the town's mayor for several terms. The building was used as a grocery store until the early 1960s. The upstairs was Dr. Albert Adler's office until 1892. From 1898 to 1910, the second floor was used as hotel rooms. From 1914 until after 1941, it was the meeting place for the local chapter of the "Alianza Hispano-Americana," a fraternal organization. The building was vacant for many years when the Florence Industrial Development Authority rehabilitated it in 1973. For several years the town library occupied the building until it was determined the weight of the books was affecting its structural stability. It is now the Florence Visitor Center, owned by the Town of Florence and operated by the Florence Main Street Program.



Stop 2 – Jaques Square N. Main and 8th Street

Jaques Square was so named as a tribute to Father Joseph Dominic Jaques, who was born December 17, 1900 in Tarregona Province, Spain. He joined the Carmelites in neighboring Catalonia and was ordained in 1923. Father Jaques came to America in 1929, to Arizona in 1931, and then to Florence in 1941. He remained more than 16 years.

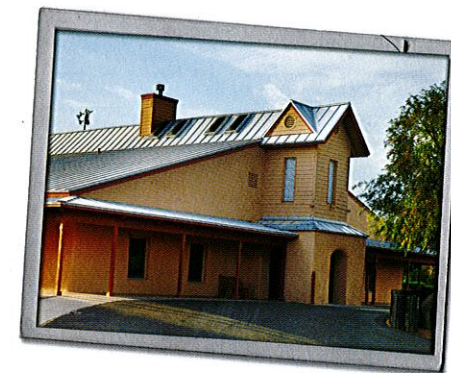


Father Jaques was noted for his devotion to the townspeople and for strict obedience to his priestly vows. He was a spiritual man, with little regard for material things — yet he was no retiring ascetic but an outgoing man with a vibrant personality and a keen sense of humor.

Father Jaques had great compassion for the sick, the poor and the troubled, and felt it his Christian duty to offer his help. For instance, there were more than 7,500 POWs north of town with no one to tend their spiritual needs. Father Jaques assumed that duty, teaching himself Italian and German for the purpose. As the only cleric who spoke their language, he also served as Chaplain for the Protestants. There were many such examples of the qualities that made Father Jaques a beloved part of Florence history — several “Father Jaques stories” have become local legend. Perhaps the best summation was given by his brother Carmelites upon his death in 1964: “Father Jaques was a worthy son of the Carmelite order, who honored the cloth with his example of virtue and with his spirit of caring and self-sacrifice, which he demonstrated constantly throughout his life.”

Stop 3 – Site of the First Presbyterian Church 330 N. Pinal Street

The First Presbyterian Church of Florence was the second Presbyterian Church in the Territory of Arizona. It was established under the leadership of Reverend Issac Whittemore who came to town on March 29, 1888 from Illinois. He was 63 years old when he preached in a room of the first courthouse, received a call and returned on commission of the Home Mission Board with his family. He once wrote, “I saw more drinking and gambling and Sabbath-breaking . . . that (sic) I had known before. I came trembling, but the Lord had sent me.”



In those days, Florence was a dusty, unpaved, unimproved, isolated, and rough western town. It boasted one saloon for every 40 inhabitants. Reverend Whittemore spent 12 years of service in Florence. The congregation moved from the first courthouse to a beautiful American Victorian style church constructed with fired brick and wood exterior, pitched roof and ornate belfry. The bell was cast in New York in 1890 and shipped by rail and wagon to Florence. Today it hangs in the First Presbyterian Church on Butte Avenue.

Reverend Whittemore traveled up the San Pedro, preaching at school houses or mining camps in various scattered villages and reached many who had not heard a sermon in years. In time, he limited his preaching to Florence with occasional trips to Casa Grande and Arizola. During those trips he established a lasting friendship with the Reverend Charles Cook. Both men were deeply concerned about the plight of the Native Americans, their need for more water, and protection for the Native American ruins at Casa Grande monument. Reverend Whittemore campaigned unsuccessfully for Native American water rights in Washington but was instrumental in getting the government to set aside the ruins as a national monument. Reverend Whittemore was appointed

the first, although uncompensated, custodian of the Casa Grande Ruins. His early efforts helped preserve and promote the site.

In 1930 the Presbyterian church building was enlarged to serve as a youth center and Baptist church. By the 1970s, it served as a library. In 1997, it was enlarged with straw-bale walls and became the first straw-built senior center in Arizona. The building is named after Dorothy Nolan, a teacher with the Florence Middle School and Sacaton Public Schools, who was extremely active in the community. She had a life-long interest in youth and was an advocate for senior citizens. She organized a local group to work on the problems of aging, which lead eventually to an appointment to the White House Conference on Aging.

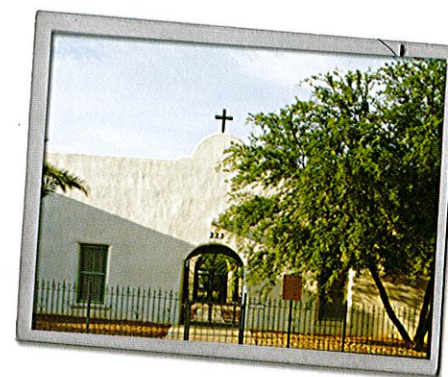
Stop 4 – Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church 221 E. 8th Street

This is the best example of Mission Revival style in Central Arizona. Mission Revival style was adopted from the Baroque style of the early Spanish Colonial Mission churches of California and Texas. The previous church on the site burned in 1893. This building was designed and constructed under the direction of Father Henry Heitz, who was the last of a long line of French-born priests in Florence.



Stop 5 – Chapel of the Gila 306 E. 8th Street

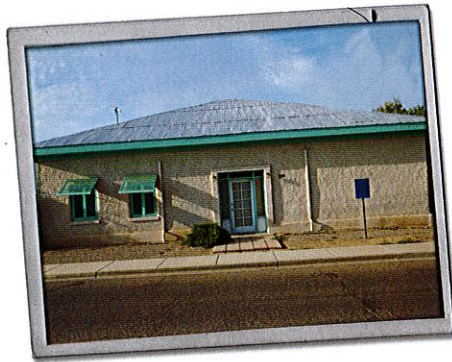
La Capilla del Gila is believed to be the last remaining mission church of Arizona's Territorial period and possibly the first church of any kind built in Central Arizona. It is a fine example of Spanish Colonial/Sonoran style. The Chapel was built in three stages. The first portion to the east was built by Father André Eschallier in the spring of 1870 when he arrived from France. The central portion was constructed between 1882 and 1883, and the western portion between 1890 and 1896.



In 1883 the second Assumption Church was completed west of the Chapel, and the Chapel itself was converted into a girls' school. When fire destroyed the second Assumption Church in 1893, the old Chapel again served as the town's Catholic Church. The third Assumption Church was completed in 1912, and since then the Chapel has been used as a school, parish hall, recreation center, indigent housing during the Depression, and food distribution center for the needy.

Stop 6 – Walker-Oury House 255 E. Ruggles Street

This residence was originally a Sonoran style, three-unit, row house built in 1878. Between 1915 and 1932, it was transformed to the Late Transitional style with the addition of a pyramidal, corrugated metal roof. In 1978, the adobe section was added to the south side. This was the first architectural use of adobe in twenty years.



This structure was the Town's first Justice Court. It was built by Captain John D. Walker, an Illinois-born, part Native American, who arrived in the Gila Valley with the California Volunteers in 1862 and stayed as a self-taught physician for the Pima Indians in Sacaton. He mastered the Pima and Maricopa languages, wrote the first Pima grammar, and married a Pima woman. Later, he became a Justice of the Peace, holding court in this structure. He was also elected as Pinal County Surveyor and as the County's second Probate Judge. He filed the original Florence Town site patent in 1877.

The second owner of the house was Virginia-born Granville Oury, an attorney, probate court judge of the New Mexico Territory, and Arizona delegate to the Confederate Congress in 1885. He purchased this building in 1886. He served as an Arizona Territorial legislator, Territorial Attorney General, a judge of the U.S. District Court, and was twice elected to the U.S. Congress.

Stop 7 – Jean Baptiste Michea Residence 220 E. Ruggles Street

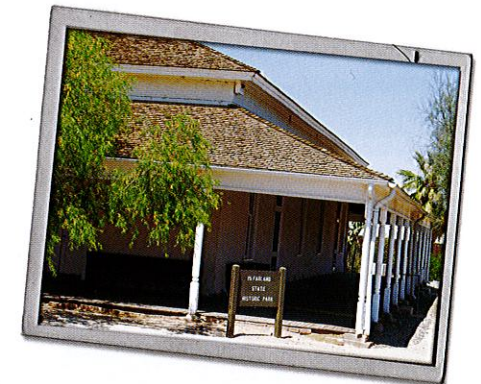
The single-story section of this building was built by French-born Jean Baptiste Michea, a farmer from the French region of Burgundy and former artilleryman with Maximilian's occupation army in Mexico. He was interested in the general merchandising business and built the structure to be used as a store and a home. The front two rooms were once one room used as a store. The rest of the building was used for storage and living quarters. From 1878 to 1888, it housed the Lone Star Store. Jean Baptiste's widow, Carmen Robles Michea, was a prominent business woman. She built the two-story addition in 1888 for parties and dances. This is the only remaining two-story adobe in town, and one of only a handful in Arizona.



Stop 8 – 1st Pinal County Courthouse 24 W. Ruggles Street

This adobe courthouse is the historic district's finest example of Early Transitional style. The original courthouse contained four rooms. Five more rooms were added in 1882.

A local "vigilance committee" stormed the Sheriff's office in this building in 1888, dragged two men from their cells and hanged them in the corridor of the jail. Those two men had been charged with holding up a stage and killing Johnny Collins, the guard. A coroner's jury later found that the two prisoners had met their



deaths “at the hands of parties unknown.” A short time later, the same “vigilance” group attempted to lynch four other prisoners under the same circumstances, but was thwarted when Michael Rice, the jailer, armed the prisoners, took them upstairs and faced down the mob from the windows above the street.

Because a new courthouse had been built by 1891, the County turned this building into a hospital, and it was used in this capacity for more than 50 years. It served as a public health and welfare office in 1938 and then a museum run by the Pinal County Historical Society in 1968. The building was sold at public auction in 1972 and purchased by Arizona Chief Justice Ernest W. McFarland and his wife, Edna. McFarland also served as Arizona Governor and U.S. Senator. He is commonly referred to as the “Father of the G.I. Bill” because of his diligence in getting the G.I. Bill passed in Congress. McFarland is the only known American to serve his state in all three branches of government. He donated the property to the Arizona State Parks Board for use as a museum.

Stop 9 – Site of the 1st Ruggles House Opposite 125 W. Ruggles Street

Although only the foundation of the 1869 house and an old storage room remain, this is the site of the first home of Col. Levi Ruggles, founder of Florence. Ruggles came to Arizona as a U.S. Indian Agent and later surveyed and laid out the townsite of Florence. He registered and received the first land office south of the Gila River and became a prominent merchant.



Ruggles was elected Justice of the Peace and school trustee in the first Pinal County election of March 1, 1875. In 1878, he was elected to serve as Pinal County Treasurer. He was a member of the Territorial Legislature in 1873, 1877 and 1885. It was mainly through his efforts while serving in the legislature that the County of Pinal was established.

He lived in the house until he finished his second home on 9th Street. At one point, this house served as the Pinal County Courthouse and Jail. Legend has it that prisoners were chained to a large boulder in the floor of the storage room.

In the distance, just past the historical marker on this site, is a hill with the letter “F” displayed in white rock. At the top of the hill is a native rock pyramid, which is the final resting place of Charles Debrille Poston. He is known as the “Father of Arizona” for convincing Congress to separate Arizona from New Mexico Territory, thus paving the way for eventual statehood.

In 1854, he explored the Gadsden Purchase and envisioned future cities, mines and ranches where others saw desolate desert and rough mountains with marauding Apache Indians. Later, he developed a silver mine, wrote books and poetry, served as a government agent and became Arizona’s first territorial congressman.

Stop 10 – George A. Brown House 125 W. Ruggles Street

This Early Transitional adobe home was built in 1875 for George A. Brown, Florence’s first Wells Fargo agent. The original one-room adobe fronted on the street but later additions changed the entrance-ways to the east. The flat, Sonoran style, earthen roof was modified in 1888 with the addition of the pitched tin roof.



George Brown was an entrepreneur who invested in a local ice making business and mining. Along with his record longevity with Wells Fargo, he was known for his handlebar mustache, the nickname "By God Brown" and his storytelling about early Florence pioneer days.

Built in the late 1860s, the shed/ice house in the back was owned by Granville Wheat, who worked for the Butterfield Stage Line and later farmed. He also served as Justice of the Peace from 1905 to 1908 and the first elected Pima County Sheriff. The shed pre-dates the house and appears on the 1869 Capt. Grossman U.S. Army map of the Gila River Valley.

Stop II – Ross/Fryer-Cushman House 361 N. Quartz Street

In 1876 Roderick Ross, one of Florence's first blacksmiths, constructed this Sonoran style adobe house. The original flat roof, made of round log beams, saguaro ribs and mud, is well preserved by a gable roof added between 1899 and 1910. Turned wood posts support a timber-framed, hip roof veranda. Celebrated Union spy Pauline Cushman and her husband, Sheriff Jere Fryer, later purchased the house.



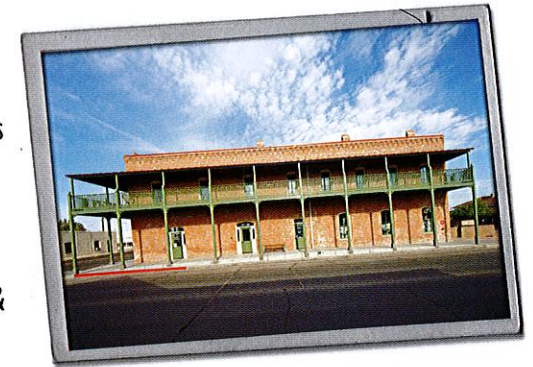
Cushman was an actress who was recruited in 1863 to spy for the Union Army. Captured by enemy forces with rebel documents in her shoes, she was sentenced to be hung near Shelbyville, Tennessee. She was rescued when the town was liberated by Union forces.

Lemuel K. Drais, owner of the nearby Florence Hotel (Silver King), later owned the home as well. Later the structure was turned into a boarding house. Western silent movie star Tom Mix was a tenant here in the 1930s. Mix often visited his daughter, who

was married and living near Florence. Mix was killed in a car wreck on October 12, 1940 when suitcases in the backseat of his car struck his head as he suddenly applied his brakes to stop at road construction.

Stop 12 – Silver King Hotel 440 N. Main Street

The Silver King Hotel was built in four phases. The first phase, along the south central portion of the block, was built in 1876 by William Long, one of the owners of the Silver King Mine. The original adobe structure was a mirror image of the second E.N. Fish & Company building located across the street. A second adobe building was constructed in 1888 along the north and west sides of the block. The building was constructed in 1895 in the American Victorian style after fire destroyed a portion of the adjacent adobe structure.



A Florence Reminder and Blade Tribune article from April 1977 notes that in the hotel's early days "it boasted the finest dining and ballrooms and saloon in central Arizona and was one of the social focal points and gathering places in the territory. The saloon featured fine whiskies from the East and brandies and wines from Europe. The dining room, along with the usual fare, specialized in fresh lobster brought in by wagon from the Gulf of California in huge oak salt water barrels. Another gourmet delicacy was fresh glazed and stuffed local quail."

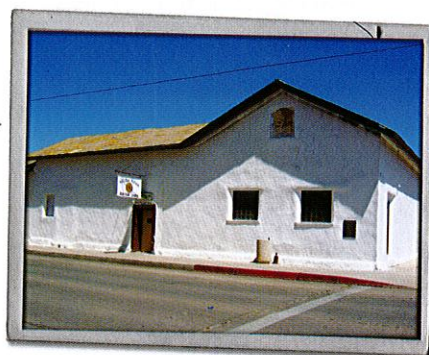
By 1890, the Silver King Mine was closed and the Silver King Hotel re-opened as the Florence Hotel. Lemuel Drais owned the hotel from 1893 into the 20th century. He was the Pinal County Sheriff in 1892 and a deputy marshal under U.S. Marshal Bob Paul. At one time, Drais had a dairy that supplied fresh products for the hotel restaurant. He also supplied meals to the prison.

Unoccupied since 1977, the Florence Preservation Foundation (FPF) purchased the hotel property in 1995 to save it from demolition. A fire in 1996 destroyed the complex except for the brick building standing today. The FPF spent \$750,000 in grant funds to stabilize the building. Left with little funds to complete the rehabilitation, the FPF sold the building to the Town of Florence in 2006. Using local tax-payer dollars and grant assistance from ADOT and Arizona State Parks, the Town of Florence spent \$730,000 in 2008 and 2009 to restore the building and open its doors to the public. The structure is now called the Silver King Marketplace and is home to a variety of small businesses.

Stop 13 – 2nd E.N. Fish & Company 441 N. Main Street

E.N. Fish & Company was the chief produce buyer, supplier and banker to area farmers. The business provided an economic foundation for the town's growth as an agricultural center, and it was a major creditor of the Silver King Mine. Built in 1874 of un-plastered adobe with pitched roofs, the second Edward Nye Fish mercantile store in Florence changed hands to become the Joseph Collingwood & Co. Store and Wells-Fargo office in 1877. Collingwood, Florence's first postmaster, was the E.N. Fish & Company's Florence branch manager.

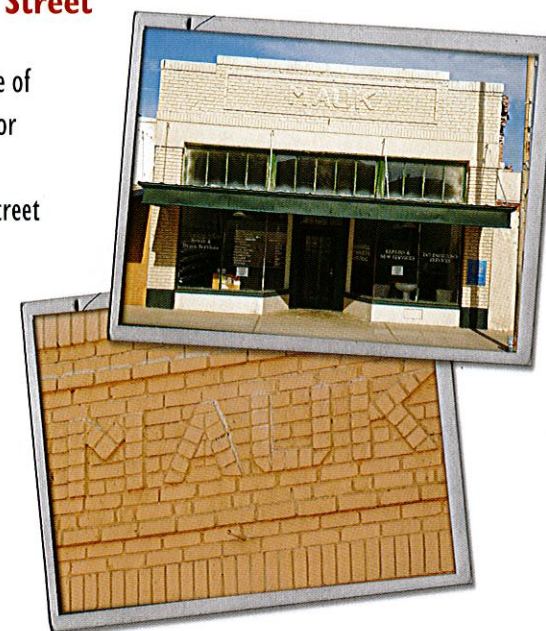
Closely resembling its original appearance except for the exterior plaster, the building also housed the telegraph office and in 1898 contained hotel rooms, an office, a saloon, dining room, kitchen and wagon shed. Later it was used for apartment units until converted into American Legion Post headquarters in 1944.



Stop 14 – Mauk Building 360 N. Main Street

The Mauk Building is an example of Early 20th Century Commercial or Neo-Classical Revival style of architecture. Most of the Main Street commercial buildings constructed between 1913 and 1936 are in the same style. The walls of these buildings are normally made of brick with large glazed shop-fronts topped by transoms made of a multitude of small leaded panes of ribbed "prism glass." Parapets, at the time called "fire walls," were sometimes pedimented or peaked along the principal facade of the store.

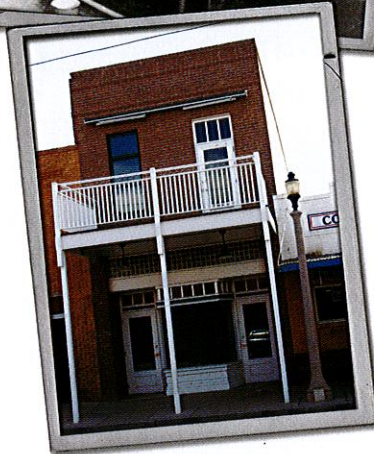
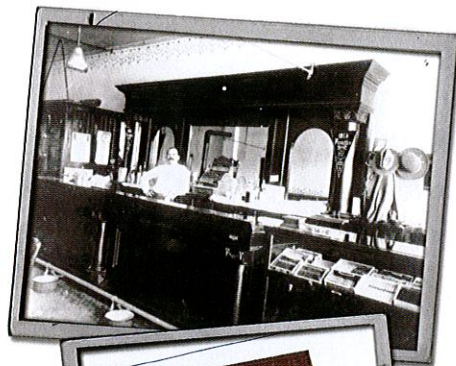
Built of brick in 1925, the building was one of three built by an early movie house mogul and later U.S. Marshal George Mauk of Phoenix. Mauk owned a chain of movie houses in nine Central Arizona communities that included the Isis Theater, which was acquired by Mauk in 1915. A portion of the Isis Theater was located on the same site as the Mauk Building. On December 22, 1924, a fire destroyed half of this Main Street block, which included the theater. Mauk built a new theater and the Mauk Building using the original site and a portion of the 7th Street. The Mauk Building served as offices for the Arizona Edison Company from 1941 to 1951 and Arizona Public Service by 1960. More recently it contained a restaurant, gift shop, eye doctor and a plumbing supply store.



Stop 15 – Cosmopolitan /Tunnel Saloon 330 N. Main Street

The Cosmopolitan Saloon is a reconstruction of the original two-story, adobe-walled structure built in 1881. The original saloon was destroyed by fire in 1924. The Florence Industrial Development Authority rebuilt the building in 1999.

From 1888 to 1908, the Cosmopolitan Saloon was the second location of the Tunnel Saloon, the site of Florence's most famous shootout.



Sheriff Pete Gabriel had recruited Josephus Phy from Tucson as his deputy. Although both men were liked and respected, they were very different in temperament. Phy abstained from alcohol, gambling and cussing; Gabriel enjoyed all three. They also had different ideas about how to enforce the law. Gabriel did anything to get his man but bristled when Phy was accused of beating a prisoner who had previously escaped and nearly killed Gabriel.

Gabriel had promised to back Phy in a coming election for sheriff but changed his mind, so bad blood developed. Phy was rather hot-tempered and everyone knew no good would come from the feud. Phy felt his name had been tarnished unfairly when he was fired from his position. Eventually Gabriel retired as sheriff, but the animosity between the two men continued.

On May 31, 1888, Gabriel was drinking in the Tunnel Saloon, so named for its underground drinking room. He was on edge when he heard that Phy was looking for him. Every time someone entered the saloon, he reached for his gun.

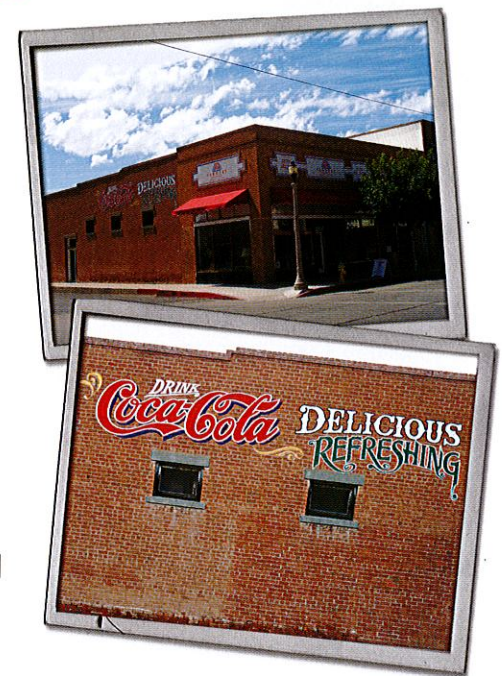
Phy was sitting on a bench across the street waiting for Gabriel to come out, but grew tired of waiting and entered the saloon. Witness reports vary. Some say Gabriel fired first, other say Phy. Some say it was simultaneous. The lights were blown out by the percussion of the shots. The two men fell out into the street and continued shooting until both were seriously wounded. Phy fell to the ground. Gabriel staggered on down the street.

The town doctor, a friend of Phy's, was summoned to treat the men, but when he approached Gabriel, his attentions were thwarted, so another doctor was summoned from Sacaton to attend to Gabriel. Ultimately Phy died of his wounds and Gabriel survived to live out his life plagued by nightmares about the incident. The story garnered more interest at the time than the Earp-Clanton shootout in Tombstone because this incident involved two well-respected lawmen.

Stop 16 – Keating Building 310 N. Main Street

Built in 1916, the southern portion of the Keating Building is one of the district's best examples of the later phase of the Neo-Classical Revival or Early 20th Century Commercial style. Originally, the building housed the People's Store, the Walton & Ramirez Barbershop and the C.H. Cherry Bakery.

The building was erected by John G. Keating, a public-spirited and progressive businessman who prospered from various businesses as well as mining interests. Keating was a native of Arkansas. He came to Arizona in April



1883 and worked for the Texas and California Stage Company, driving a stage from Florence to Silver King. In 1886, he settled in Florence and established a business.

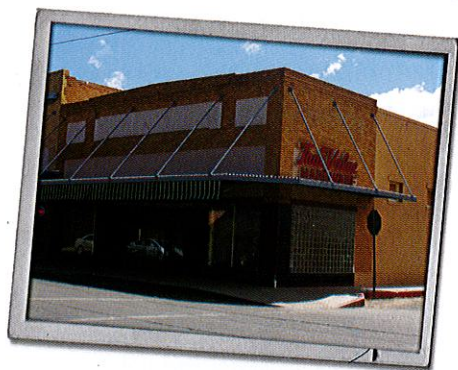
He joined the state guards, rising from corporal to captain of Company E, First Arizona National Guard. He was elected supervisor of Pinal County and for two years was chairman of the board. For many years, he was a member of the Democratic State Central Committee and was its chairman. He was a member of the 23rd Territorial Legislature and served on several important committees, including ways and means, corporations and judicial, and he was the chairman of the county boundaries and territorial affairs.

Keating was a member of the Florence Town Council from the incorporation of the town until 1913. He will long be remembered for his many contributions to Florence and Pinal County.

An old-fashioned advertisement for Coca-Cola was painted on the 8th Street side of the building for the 1985 movie "Murphy's Romance," filmed in Florence. At the time, Coca-Cola owned the studio that made the film.

Stop 17 – The Popular Store/Mandell's Department Store 290 N. Main Street

Built in 1915, this building is an excellent example of the later phase of the Neo-Classical Revival style as applied to a small commercial building. The structure is one of only two examples in the Florence Historic District. It was designed by Lescher & Kibbey of Phoenix, considered the leading architectural firm in Arizona during the period between 1915 and 1930. The structure was built for C.G. Powell's The Popular Store, advertised as "specialists in ready-to-wear clothing." Powell, former manager of the Florence Commercial Company, later served for a time as warden of the state penitentiary. In 1919, the property was sold to Kaufmann



Mandell, a merchant from Casa Grande. He and later his son, Kay Mandell, operated the Mandell Department Store at this location until 1989.

The property was purchased in 1994 and operated as the Florence True Value Hardware Store until 2004 when it moved into the adjacent White-McCarthy Lumber building. In 2008, the building underwent rehabilitation with grant funding from the Arizona State Parks Historic Preservation Heritage Fund.

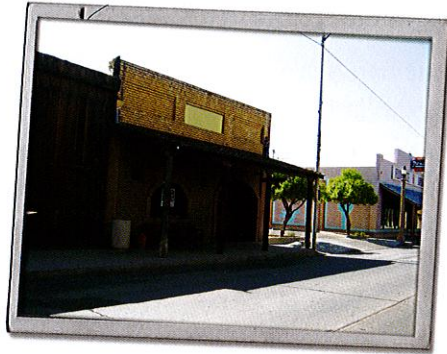
Stop 18 – White-McCarthy Lumber 280 N. Main Street

The White-McCarthy Building was one of the most important manifestations of the last major episode of building activity in Florence's linear Main Street/Bailey Street "business district." This single story commercial building includes a partial basement, wide-open interior spaces and a tall, carefully detailed Main Street store front of exposed, buff-colored, pressed brick. The other wall is composed of common red brick. A metal surface covers the flat wood-framed roof. Iowa-native H.H. Freeman purchased the building in 1918 and made the southern two-thirds of the building headquarters for the Pinal Lumber and Hardware Company for over a century.



Stop 19 – La Paloma 255 N. Main Street

Of the various and much modified bar interiors in Florence, the interior of this building best preserves the ambiance of a 19th century saloon. Built between 1912 and 1914, the bar has its original “matchstick” ceiling.



The period wood and mirrored back-bar came from Europe around the cape by steamship and overland from San Francisco. Originally located in Gibby's Old Town Cantina, the back-bar came to the La Paloma Bar with colorful owner Bernabe “Benny Paloma” Grajeda.

In common with the rest of Florence's saloons, this building was built as a saloon but became a pool hall following enactment of statewide Prohibition in 1915 by the state legislature. Prior to World War II, after Prohibition was repealed, the building once again became a bar. In the old west where riding and drinking personified the image of a real man, some customs tend to be repeated as the years go by. On three occasions, a rider with a strong craving for a drink and little respect for social niceties, rode his horse into one of the saloons in town and enjoyed as alcoholic repast while remaining in the saddle.

Stop 20 – Chin Foo and Chin Wing Building 244 & 230 N. Main Street

This building housed businesses owned by Chinese merchants. In 1863, lured like many others to the West by mining, railroad construction, agriculture, retail and ranching, many Chinese workers came to Florence to open restaurants, grocery stores and laundries. Chum Kin, Lee Sin Kee, Jim Sam, and Antonio the Chinaman were among those who prospered. One merchant, Don Sing, learned to speak the Pima language and opened a store on the Pima Indian Reservation. Grocer Lem Wing Chin advertised Chinese handkerchiefs and genuine Chinese tea and novelties in 1892. Sing Lee's bakery and restaurant advertised meals for 25 cents in 1898.



Stop 21 – William Clarke House 190 N. Main Street

Indian raids on white settlers were common in the 1880s. When William Clarke, a mining engineer, and his wife Ella came to Florence, he devised a built-in security system while constructing his residence around 1884. The interior contained a ladder reaching to the upper floor in the event of an Indian attack. Once the occupants were safely upstairs, the ladder could be pulled up and a trap door closed.



The Clarke House is an excellent example of the Late Transitional style of architecture,

a blending of Sonoran adobe walls and elegantly detailed Anglo-Victorian entrance porch and louvered bay window. In front of the house were large olive trees, lilac bushes in front of the bay window and a climbing rose bush on a trellis by the front door. Evening ice cream socials were held under the olive trees, which were strung with lanterns on wires. The interior was furnished with an impressive array of Eastlake period furniture. Their square grand piano can be seen today at the Pinal County Historical Museum.

Now the offices of the Florence Reminder and Blade-Tribune, the building was returned to its former glory by Donovan Kramer, owner of Casa Grande Valley Newspapers, Inc.

Stop 22 – John Clum House 180 N. Granite Street

Built in 1878, this is a typical “four square” house with four rooms of equal size. This building is the first Late Transitional style structure in Florence. It was built by John P. Clum, an Indian Agent and editor and publisher of Florence’s first newspaper, The Arizona Citizen. He was admitted to the bar in 1877, but preferred journalism and started newspapers in both Florence and Tombstone. While mayor of Tombstone, he befriended Wyatt Earp.

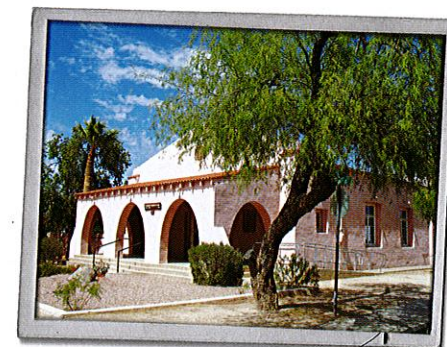


Typical Late Transitional features include full setbacks from all property lines, stucco on adobe walls, truncated pyramidal roof and sophisticated wood trim. The structure also suggests the possible influence of architecture of Army installations in Arizona with which Clum would have been familiar.

The Clum House remains a clear reminder of the greatly accelerated influx of architectural ideas in the 1870s from the East and California.

Stop 23 – Florence Woman’s Club 231 N. Willow Street

The Florence Woman’s Club grew from the Florence Village Improvement Club, organized in 1897 to improve and beautify the town of Florence. The Improvement Club was one of five original groups to form an alliance called the Arizona Federation of Women’s Clubs in 1901. In 1914, the club bought the land on which the clubhouse stands. Through fundraisers, loans and public subscription, the club raised \$9,420 to erect the building that was completed in 1929.



Constructed of adobe in the Spanish Colonial Revival style by prison inmates, the clubhouse is a fine example of the work of architects Lescher & Mahoney of Phoenix, who also designed the Florence High School. An ornate, Spanish-style fireplace and original light fixtures are still in place.

For a period of three years during World War II, the clubhouse was rented to the USO for \$75 per month. Soldiers could drop in and enjoy a reading center, play phonograph records and join in Saturday night dances.

Stop 24 – 2nd Pinal County Courthouse 135 N. Pinal Street

Built in 1891, the courthouse was considered the oldest building in continual public use when it was vacated in 2005 because of its condition. It is an excellent example of American-Victorian architecture, which reflected the Pinal County Board of Supervisors' commitment to continued growth and prosperity in Pinal County.



The building's most unique feature is the clock tower, which actually has no clock. Despite the optimism of the Supervisors, there was not enough money to put real clocks in the tower. The clocks are metal facings with hands permanently set at 11:44.

The rounded part of the building at the rear served as the County Jail and Sheriff's office. The courtroom was on the second floor directly above the jail. Three infamous women passed through this building on their way to answer for crimes that had been committed. They were Pearl Hart, Arizona's only woman stagecoach robber; Eva Dugan, the only woman hanged in Arizona; and Winnie Ruth Judd, the convicted trunk murderess.

Restoration of the courthouse is an ongoing project.

Stop 25 – Jesus Preciado de Luna House 115 E. 11th Street

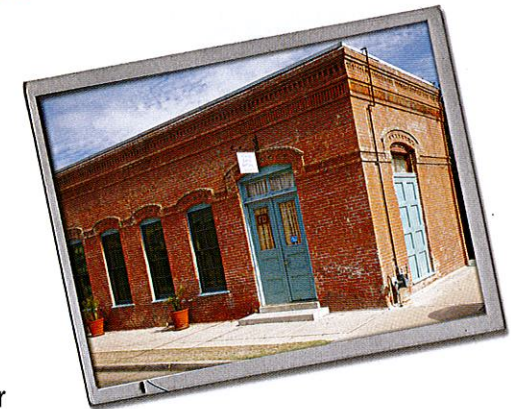
This is a good example of a Sonoran corner-style row house. Its street facades are flush with the property line and the wings are one room deep. Always used as a residence, it was built in 1880 by Juan Luna. Placing the wife's name on the title was an old Spanish custom, "the wife always owned the house... it was the polite thing to do."



Santiago Lorona, member of an early and prominent Florence family, purchased the house in 1904. It remained the Lorona family residence for many decades.

Stop 26 – John Nicholas Second Saloon 46 E. 11th Street

The earliest fire-brick building still standing in Florence and the town's second oldest brick structure, the second Nicholas Saloon and Beer Hall was built in 1889 for John Nicholas.

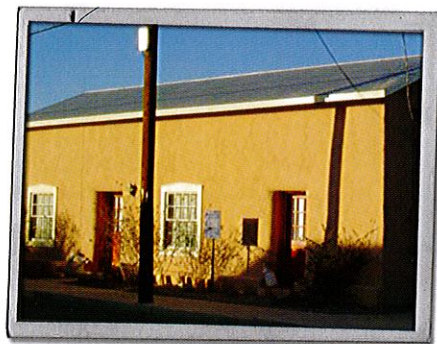


Nicholas was a French-born rancher, farmer, and saloon keeper who came to town in 1880 and opened his first Beer Hall about 1886. He then moved to this building in October 1889. One of the few structures in the historic district to include a basement, which may have been used to store liquor and keep it cool, the bar also boasted

a steam-powered fan to cool patrons in the summer. Originally, there were three entrances: two on 11th Street and one on Bailey Street. The building has been used as a residential dwelling and rental, and as an office.

Stop 27 – John Nicholas Residence 192 N. Bailey Street

The south portion, a single story adobe row house originally with a flat earth roof on saguaro rib and round log beams, was built prior to 1881 by French-born farmer John Nicholas. It has been used as a dwelling since its construction.



The north portion of this building was constructed as John Nicholas' "New Beer Hall" in 1886. This establishment offered customers "Fine California Beer on Draught" served in the "Coolest Place in Town." After its days as a beer hall, it was the second Arizona Weekly Enterprise office and printing shop, and a general store.

Later, the two buildings became apartments, leaving today's owners with two kitchens.

Stop 28 – Isabella Cosgrove House 191 N. Bailey Street

The western portion of this adobe brick house was built for Frank and Isabella Cosgrove. It was originally constructed with dirt floors, roof and a Sonoran corner fireplace. During the 1890s, Theophile Nicholas Americanized the structure by adding the central portion of the lean-to and shingled gabled roof. Between 1898 and 1911, a brick veneer with window and door archways modernized its appearance and a garage was added.



Stop 29 – Jacob Suter House 270 N. Pinal Street

Jacob Suter, a Swiss tinsmith, built this house in 1888. His hardware store was located where the parking lot currently exists. This building is an excellent example of the Late Transitional style, characterized by the use of the Spanish-Mexican sun-dried adobe walls and pyramidal frame, wood-shingled, Anglo-American roofs, porches and full setbacks. When first built, this house with its shingled roof and central hall was itself additional proof of how far the town had moved in the direction of a more stable and increasingly sophisticated frontier culture. Florence had come a long way from her rowdy mining boomtown and cowboy roots.



Later owners included Joseph Spinas (from 1898 to 1918), a wealthy rancher responsible for the Bungalow style interior remodeling of 1917. After his death, one of his married daughters, Eleanor Spinas Nicholas, lived in the home from 1918 to 1933.

The house went through several transformations: from a private home, to a multiple dwelling unit, to a visitor center, and then back to a private residence.

Architectural Styles in Florence

Sonoran Style: 1866-1950

- High plastered adobe walls typical to Spanish Colonial and Mexican architecture
- Earth and timber flat roof construction methods of the Hohokam and Pima Indians
- Built flush with the property lines with rear gardens
- Stone foundations and narrow tall windows and doors with wood casings

Early Transitional Style: 1871-1947

- Differed from the Sonoran Style by the addition of verandas running the length of the structure
- Pitched roofs with the roofing running parallel to the street

Late Transitional Style: 1878-1949

- Square-shaped structures with front yards
- Hipped, pyramidal or mansard shaped metal or shingled roofs

American Victorian Style: 1885-1922

- Similar to structures built in the East
- Relied on imported prefabricated materials such as metal columns, lintels and cornices
- Walls are brick and any roof style is appropriate

American Bungalow Style: 1908-1950

- Whereas the Sonoran Style is unique to the Southwest, the Bungalow Style is unique to this time period in the United States
- Located on the center of the lot
- Made of brick with large wood shingle roofs and large porches

Mission Revival Style: 1911-1942

- Adapted from Spanish-Colonial churches in California
- Brick, stuccoed walls with tiled gable roofs between ornate end parapet walls